

**FY 2004 DRUG COURT PROGRAM
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

Q: What is the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number?

A: The CFDA number is 16.585.

Q: What is the legislative authority for the program?

A: The Drug Courts Program is authorized under Title I, Part EE, of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, Pub. L. No. 90-351, Title I, 82 Stat. 197, as amended by the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriation Authorization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-273, Division B Title II, Subtitle C, 116 Stat 1758 (2002).

Q: What is the appropriations amount?

A: Awards are contingent upon Congress appropriating funds in Fiscal Year 2004. In Fiscal Year 2003, Congress appropriated \$45 million to implement the program.

Q: What is the purpose of the Drug Court Grant Program?

A: To achieve a reduction in recidivism and substance abuse among nonviolent adult and/or juvenile substance abusing offenders.

Q: Who administers the grant?

A: The Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs.

Q: Is the application available on the Internet?

A: Yes, visit the BJA homepage at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bja>

Q: Is this a discretionary or formula grant?

A: This is a discretionary, competitive grant.

Q: When are the applications due?

A: All applications must be submitted electronically through GMS by 5:00 PM Eastern Time, February 27, 2004.

Q: How is the application review process conducted?

A: A peer review will take place after the application due date.

Q: Where can model drug court information be obtained?

A: The following are resources for information:

National Criminal Justice Reference Service: (1-800-851-3420 or

<http://virlib.ncjrs.org/AlphaTitles.asp> or <http://dcpi.ncjrs.org/index.html>

Drug Court Clearinghouse: (202-885-2875 or <http://www.american.edu/justice>)

National Association of Drug Court Professionals: 703-575-9400 or

<http://www.nadcp.org>

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges: <http://www.ncjfcj.org/>

Native American Alliance Foundation: (918) 461-2190

Q: Has the solicitation changed as a result of the statute, as amended by Public Law No. 107-273?

A: The drug court program solicitation requires and/or provides for:

1) Juvenile drug court violent offender definition. See Page 35 of the Resource Guide for the definition and frequently asked questions. This definition only applies to grants awarded in Fiscal Year 2003 and onward. This definition does not apply to grants awarded before Fiscal Year 2003.

2) Economic Sanctions - Applicants are now required to submit plans for collecting fees (in whole or in part) for treatment costs and restitution. The plan must also include a provision to ensure that the economic sanctions do not interfere with a client's rehabilitation.

3) Family Drug Court Implementation and Enhancement -

The new statute allows for both the implementation and enhancement of family drug courts. The previous statute did not.

Q: Is there a local match requirement?

A: Yes, 25 percent of the total program cost is required for Implementation and Enhancement grants. A portion of the match must be cash. This is required by statute; the term "portion" is not defined.

Q: Are waivers of the local match an option?

A: No, a 25 percent match is required. Note: See the Resource Guide, page 9

Q: Can I apply to implement a family drug court and enhance a juvenile drug court in the same application?

A: No, you must submit separate applications as they are separate solicitations. (Note: It is not uncommon for a jurisdiction to apply for more than one category. This is allowable.)

Q: In the solicitation, implementation grants are available for up to 3 years and up to \$450,000. Does this mean a total of \$1.35 million over 3 years? and is \$400,000 available for enhancement over 2 years?

A: No, it is a total of \$450,000 applied over the 3 year period for implementation, and a total of \$200,000 over a 2 year period for enhancement.

Q: Can I apply for \$450,000 for just a 1 year implementation grant.

A: Yes, you are not required to apply for a three year grant. The length of the grant depends on

your jurisdictional needs, and may not exceed three years.

Q: Are applicants for an implementation grant still required to conduct a process and outcome evaluation?

A: Yes, implementation grant recipients must conduct both a process evaluation and an outcome evaluation.

Q: What's the definition of a "violent offender?"

A: See Page 35 of the Resource Guide for the definition and frequently asked questions (FAQ's).

Q: Why aren't hard copies being accepted?

A: To expedite and streamline the receipt, review, and processing of your request for funding, all grant applications to the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance must be submitted electronically.

Q: Does BJA have to approve my user id before I submit my application?

A: Yes, you must log on to GMS, and create a user-id

Q: Who is eligible to apply?

A: Eligible applicants are limited to States, State courts, local courts, counties, other units of local government, and Indian tribal governments, acting directly or through agreement with other public or private entities. Applicants may choose to submit joint applications with other eligible jurisdictions for statewide, regional, and multi-jurisdictional drug court programs. With joint applications, one organization must be designated as the applicant and any co-applicants designated accordingly. The applicant organization must be eligible and the other agencies/organizations must provide supporting documentation. All applicants must demonstrate that they have the management and financial capabilities to effectively plan and implement projects of the size and scope described in the application kit. Nonprofit and for-profit agencies are not eligible applicants.

For an application from a subunit of government (e.g., county probation department, district attorney's office, pretrial services agency) to be considered, it must be authorized as representing an eligible applicant (described above). For example, a county executive may authorize the county district attorney's office or other county agency as its representative for the purpose of application. In this instance, the applicant continues to be the authorizing State, court system, or unit of local government. The county agency, district attorney's office, or other authorized subunit, is the organization authorized to submit an application on behalf of the eligible applicant.

Note: See the Resource Guide, page 8.

Q: Are there separate solicitations for adult, juvenile, and family drug court implementation grants

in FY 2004, and can my jurisdiction apply to implement all 3?

A: Yes, in Fiscal Year 2004, BJA released the following solicitations to support the implementation of drug courts:

Adult Drug Court Implementation Grants
Juvenile Drug Court Implementation Grants
Family Drug Court Implementation Grants

An eligible applicant would not be prohibited from submitting a separate application for all three. However, based on the experience of drug court practitioners, it is very difficult to implement more than one drug court at a time. Jurisdictions have tried and experienced great difficulty doing so. Practitioners recommend implementing an adult drug court first.

Q: Is a criminal charge required to participate in the program?

A: No. However, the target population must be under the jurisdiction of the court

Q: Are statewide projects supported in FY 2004?

A: Yes, in FY 2004, the enhancement grant category is broken into two parts: single jurisdiction enhancement grants and statewide enhancement grants. Single jurisdiction enhancement grants are available to improve the delivery of services or to enhance an existing drug court through additional services. Statewide enhancement grants are available to establish an evaluation and/or automated data collection system initiative or to provide statewide training or technical assistance.

--Enhancement Grants for Single Jurisdictions and Statewide Drug Courts - A total of \$200,000 is available for up to 2 years.

Q: What about tribal communities? I do not see a separate solicitation

A: Tribal jurisdictions apply under the same solicitation as the States.

Q: Are communities that have or previously have had a grant from DCPO eligible to apply for FY 2004 funding from BJA.

A: Yes, however, a strong case must be made for the need of additional resources if it is for the same drug court.

Q: Are planning grants still available?

A: BJA will assist communities planning adult, juvenile, and family drug courts through the Drug Court Planning Initiative (DCPI). Under DCPI, a community will not need to submit an application or provide a 25 percent match to receive training and technical assistance on planning an adult, juvenile, or family drug court. BJA will assist 200 communities plan an adult, juvenile, tribal or family drug court. BJA will be releasing the Fiscal Year 2005 DCPI in early 2005. To receive information about DCPI, contact www.dcpj.ncjrs.org.

DCPI will consist of three workshops that build on the foundation of the previous workshop. Thus, the same drug court team must attend all three workshops; however, only the judge and coordinator will attend the first workshop of the adult training program. BJA will pay for the cost of each workshop and each team's travel expenses (airfare, ground transportation, hotel, and meals) based on Federal travel regulations.

BJA will continue to develop and conduct these planning workshops through cooperative agreements with the National Drug Court Institute, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and the Justice Management Institute. The National Criminal Justice Reference Service will provide logistical support for all workshops.

Please email additional questions to AskBJA@ojp.usdoj.gov.